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*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

April 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 1623
Examiner
Confirmation No. 3882

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/920,286; Filed: August 2, 2001
For: **Process for the Production of Multiple Cross-Linked Hyaluronic Acid
Derivatives**
Inventor: Xiaobin ZHAO
Our Ref: 0623.1110001/LBB/MGP

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. SKGF Cover Letter;
2. Supplemental Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. 1.111; and
3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
April 16, 2004
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Lawrence B. Bugaisky
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Registration No. 35,086

LBB/MGP/awt
Enclosures

253656_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Xiaobin ZHAO

Appl. No.: 09/920,286

Filed: August 2, 2001

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Art Unit: 1623

Examiner: Lewis, Patrick

Atty. Docket: 0623.1110001/LBB/MGP

Supplemental Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **May 20, 2003**, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 12), Applicant submits the following Supplemental Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent

abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.